

RARITAN VALLEY ARTS ASSOCIATION

ESTABLISHED 1939

March 2005 NEWSLETTER

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Bridgewater, NJ 08807

Roaring Greetings!

March is comin' in like a lion! A big wet white one! But we'll all be keeping dry and warm and have a lot of fun at our next meeting, **Monday, March 28th**, 7:30 pm, at the Somerset County Library. Our demonstrator will be Connie Gray, an award winner and teacher in watercolor and mixed media. Connie will be doing something **BRAND NEW** with us. We'll have an interactive session because Connie will be painting on, and explaining, different kinds of papers, like gesso-ed paper, Yupo, Aquarius II, and others. And she will encourage audience participation for some of you to try out these papers. Sounds great! Come join us! Hospitality for March will be provided by Arti Dunn and Angela Fehrenback and we thank Arti and Angela for this!

TWO BIG TRIPS UPCOMING! Our first one is to the **Museum of Modern Art** on Saturday, March 19th. This is your chance to view MOMA in its new digs, sort of an architectural wonder, and to renew your acquaintance with Monet and Renoir, Matisse and Pollack, and many, many more. A check made out to RVAA for \$28. and mailed to Chairwoman Mary Ann Vaccaro, 105 Brokaw Court, Bridgewater, NJ, 08807, will insure your seat. We are to meet at the upper parking lot of the Somerset County Library at 8:45 am. The bus will leave MOMA at 3:30, so you'll be home by 5. Mary Ann has been told you will save a long line waiting to purchase tickets to the museum by purchasing your ticket ahead, online. If you don't have a computer, you may call her at 908/704-1685 and she can do it. Your friends and relatives are invited to come, too!

Our second trip is also to the Big Apple, to the **Metropolitan Museum of Art** as well as the **Salmagundi Club** for the American Watercolor Society Show. Debbie Hughes is once again masterminding this and you may send a check made out to RVAA for \$28. to her at 255 Falmouth Place, Bridgewater, 08807, for this always-great trip, Saturday, April 16th. For this trip we'll meet again at the upper parking lot of the Somerset County Library, but at 8:15 for a 8:30 prompt bus leaving (**this is one-half earlier than usual**). You can see the Met and then go down to the Salmagundi on the bus at 3:30 (or stay at the Met and be picked up at 4:30). Those downtown at the AWS show will be picked up

at 5; we're home a bit after 6. Debbie's phone number is 908/725-4639. Do bring your friends and relatives; there is plenty of room on this great trip!

ABOUT THESE TRIPS: EDITOR'S NOTE You really want to come! My husband and I went in to see Cristo and Jean-Claude's Orange Banners and really enjoyed them, and then we went to the Met—BUT—the Met parking lot was full, on a Tuesday! Our parking elsewhere was \$38. And on RVAA's Met trip we can leave our coats in the bus because we're dropped off right in front of the Met, which saves about 20-30 minutes on line at the coat check. Plus, our busses have rest rooms. So you see, you really want to come on the bus trip, see the art, and save money (the banners are down now, anyway). We thank Debbie and Mary Ann for all their work!

UPCOMING SHOWS Let us mention again that Trinity United Church in Warren will hold its Second Annual Community Art Show on Saturday, April 23rd, from 10-4 (it is an Indoor Art Show). RVAA member Kit Bebbington is running this and you may call her at 732/356-3730 for information, ASAP.

Also, ASAP, as photos or slides are due by March 18th is the juried show "Works on Paper" at the Somerset County Cultural & Heritage Gallery, and you may send slides or photos (4" x 6") to Somerset County Cultural & Heritage Commission. The show will be judged by printmaker Eileen Foti, an Assistant Professor at Montclair State University, who teaches papermaking and printmaking. Please call the Commission immediately for a form; their number is 908/231-70+

00. The entry fee is \$10. for up to four works. There are awards.

Also, the 5th Anniversary Juried Art Show “Celebrating the Somerset Hills—People, Places, & Scenes” (oils, pastels, watercolors, and acrylic framed paintings will be accepted) will run April 1-30th. One entry per artist is allowed; delivery is Friday, April 1st, from 10 am until noon.(paintings not selected to be picked up Saturday the 2nd between 10 and 12). There are awards. For further information, please call Kathy Palmer at 908/766-1576.

GOOD NEWS FROM DUKE GARDENS

Many of you have enjoyed Duke Gardens but have been frustrated in the past because you could not actually sit and paint there, but had to be part of a tour. NO MORE! On March 21st and on April 18th you may sit and paint in the gardens between 9am and noon. You must call the Gardens at 908/243-3626 to reserve your spot—this costs \$30. but of course you get to tour all the gardens, as well. You may bring your paints or sketching materials and a folding chair. There will also be one and two day Botanical Illustrations Workshops with teacher Robin Jess coming in April. Please call to get information and forms for this as well, or go to Dukefarms.org for more information.

MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

GAY BILLICH was juried into the Somerset Art Association 2005 Members' Annual Juried Show and received the William Nogengast Memorial Award as well as \$100 (Judge's Choice).

CONNIE GRAY had a one-woman show at Orpha's Coffee Shop in Montgomery. She also has her work included in the 2005 Edition of NEW ART INTERNATIONAL.

And now your editor must apologize as she has lost a bit of paper which may, or may not, have even more members' news on it. If your editor has forgotten you, she apologizes, and she will be extremely careful with any future bits of paper, and will include your news in the April Newsletter.